

**CLAIMS**

- 1 1. An adjustable side rail, comprising:
  - 2 a first elongate rail portion having a top edge and a bottom edge; and
  - 3 a second elongate rail portion having spatially separated opposing upper and
  - 4 lower grooves, each groove slidably receiving one of the top and bottom edges of the
  - 5 first elongate rail portion when the first elongate rail portion engages the second elongate
  - 6 rail portion; and
  - 7 a tab projecting from one end of one of the first and second elongate rail portions,
  - 8 the tab having a side edge with a notch formed therein for catching an edge of a hole in a
  - 9 mounting rail into which the tab is inserted and for anchoring the one end of that elongate
  - 10 rail portion to the mounting rail while a length of the side rail is adjusted.
- 1 2. The adjustable side rail of claim 1, further comprising a flange at the one end of one of
- 2 the first and second elongate rail portions for fastening that elongate rail portion to a
- 3 mounting rail.
- 1 3. The adjustable side rail of claim 1, wherein each of the first and second elongate rail
- 2 portions includes a plurality of vent openings in a side thereof.
- 1 4. The adjustable side rail of claim 1, wherein the tab projects from the one end of the first
- 2 rail portion.
- 1 5. The adjustable rail of claim 4, further comprising a second tab projecting from the one
- 2 end of the first rail portion.

- 1    6.    The adjustable side rail of claim 1, wherein the second rail portion has a lower edge and a  
2       shelf portion extending laterally from the lower edge for supporting a side of an  
3       equipment unit.
- 1    7.    The adjustable side rail of claim 6, wherein the second rail portion has a rear edge and a  
2       forward-facing tab extending from the rear edge, the forward-facing tab limiting an  
3       extent of rearward placement of the equipment unit on the shelf portion.
- 1    8.    The adjustable side rail of claim 1, wherein the grooves extend laterally from an outward  
2       facing surface of the second rail portion.
- 1    9.    The adjustable side rail of claim 1, wherein the tab projects from the one end of the  
2       second rail portion.
- 1    10.   The adjustable side rail of claim 1, wherein the first elongate rail portion includes an  
2       upper groove and a lower groove spatially separated from and opposing the upper groove,  
3       the grooves of the first elongate rail portion being configured to receive top and bottom  
4       rail guides of an equipment rail attached to a side of an equipment unit.
- 1    11.   A method of installing a unit of equipment in a cabinet rack, the method comprising:  
2               inserting a tab extending from one end of an adjustable side rail into a hole of a  
3       first mounting rail at one end of the cabinet rack;  
4               positioning the tab within the hole such that an edge of the tab catches a surface  
5       adjacent to the hole to anchor the one end of the adjustable side rail to the first mounting  
6       rail by preventing the tab from being horizontally retracted from the hole; and

7           extending the adjustable side rail, anchored to the first mounting rail, to a second  
8        mounting rail at another end of the cabinet rack to adjust a length of the adjustable side  
9        rail to fit between the mounting rails.

1   12. The method of claim 11, further comprising securing the adjustable side rail to the first  
2       and second mounting rails.

1   13. The method of claim 12, further comprising repeating the steps of inserting, positioning,  
2       extending and securing for a second adjustable side rail.

1   14. The method of claim 13, further comprising attaching an equipment rail to each side of an  
2       equipment unit to produce an equipment assembly and sliding the equipment assembly  
3       onto each secured adjustable side rail.

1   15. The method of claim 13, wherein each adjustable side rail has a bottom edge and a shelf  
2       portion extending laterally from the bottom edge, and further comprising placing an  
3       equipment unit onto the shelf portions.

1   16. The method of claim 13, further comprising sliding an equipment tray onto the adjustable  
2       side rails and placing an equipment unit on the equipment tray.

1   17. A cabinet rack system, comprising a pair of adjustable side rails, each adjustable side rail  
2       being coupled to a rear mounting rail and to a front mounting rail and having first  
3       elongate rail portion, a second elongate rail portion, and a tab projecting from a back end  
4       of one of the first and second elongate portions into a hole of the rear mounting rail, the  
5       first elongate rail portion having a top edge and a bottom edge, the second elongate rail  
6       portion having spatially separated opposing upper and lower grooves, each groove

7       slidably receiving one of the top and bottom edges of the first elongate rail portion, the  
8       tab having a side edge with a notch formed therein for catching an edge of the hole in the  
9       rear mounting rail into which the tab is inserted and anchoring the back end of that  
10      elongate rail portion with the tab to the rear mounting rail while a front end of the other  
11      elongate rail portion is coupled to the front mounting rail.

1       18. The cabinet rack of claim 17, further comprising an equipment assembly including an  
2       equipment unit and an equipment rail attached to each side of the equipment unit, each  
3       equipment rail being slidably coupled to one of the adjustable side rails when the  
4       equipment assembly is installed in the cabinet rack.

1       19. The cabinet rack of claim 17, wherein each adjustable side rail has a bottom edge and a  
2       shelf portion extending laterally from the bottom edge, and further comprising an  
3       equipment unit disposed on the shelf portions of the adjustable side rails.

1       20. The cabinet rack of claim 17, further comprising an equipment tray having integrated  
2       equipment rails, the integrated equipment rails being slidably coupled to the adjustable  
3       side rails when the equipment tray is installed in the cabinet rack.